

Bionantism and a Question I Had Never Asked Myself Before

By an Art Enthusiast

A while ago, I was reading about artificial intelligence.

Nothing unusual.

Articles, opinions, predictions about the future. Some claimed that artificial intelligence would improve the world. Others warned that it could become one of the greatest dangers humanity has ever created.

In the middle of all that, I came across a term I had never heard before:

Bionantism.

My first reaction was simple:

"What on earth is that?"

The word sounded strange and unfamiliar. To be honest, I assumed it was probably another one of those concepts that appear for a while, attract some attention, and then quietly disappear.

Still, my curiosity got the better of me.

So I kept reading.

What I discovered surprised me.

According to its creator, Romanian artist **Mihai Ionescu**, Bionantism is first and foremost a term. Yet behind that term lies an idea that I found unexpectedly thought-provoking.

At the center of the concept is the notion of **co-genesis** — the simultaneous development of organic and artificial forms of existence.

At first, that may sound abstract.

But the more I thought about it, the more interesting it became.

Most discussions about the future tend to place humanity and technology on opposite sides. Human versus machine. Nature versus the artificial. One side wins, the other loses.

Bionantism seems to suggest something different.

What if we are looking at the relationship the wrong way?

What if the future is not shaped by conflict, but by interaction?

What if organic and artificial forms of existence are already influencing one another in ways we barely understand?

I realized that what attracted me to the concept was not that it provided answers.

It didn't.

Instead, it changed the questions.

Rather than asking whether technology will replace humanity, I found myself wondering how humanity and technology might transform one another over time.

Rather than focusing only on risks or benefits, I began thinking about a much larger process — one that may still be in its earliest stages.

That, to me, is where the value of the concept lies.

Not in predicting the future.

Not in claiming certainty.

But in offering a different lens through which to view the future.

Maybe the idea will eventually prove to be wrong.

Maybe it will turn out to be surprisingly accurate.

There is no way of knowing.

But some concepts are valuable not because they provide solutions, but because they encourage us to think differently.

After reading about Bionantism, I was left with the feeling that this is one of those concepts.

It made me pause.

It made me reflect.

And perhaps most importantly, it made me ask questions I had never asked myself before.

I have also included a painting that, in my opinion, captures something of the spirit behind the idea. I cannot say whether that was the artist's intention, but when I look at it, I see a visual expression of co-genesis — a moment suspended somewhere between the organic and the artificial, between what already exists and what is still becoming.

Perhaps others will see something entirely different.

That is perfectly fine.

After all, one of the most interesting things about art is that it often begins where certainty ends.



Mihai Ionescu – Origini (oil/canvas)